

<i>The Blurb</i> is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer. Editor: Rick DeVirgiliis ND3B nd3b@arrl.net 215-908-7225 Club Archivist: Gwen Patton NG3P ng3p@arrl.net 610-630-9862 Labels and mailing: KB3IV Submissions deadline: All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.		Directors: W3AOK (11) WA3KIO (11) N3XKE (11) KB2ERL (12) W3STW (12) WU3I (12) ND3B (A)	Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 88 Abington, PA 19001 http://www.phil-mont.org Website: Eric N3QV & Andrew KC2PMW For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: KB3IV
Committees Archives: NG3P Audit: NS3K Blurb folding: KB3IV & N3GLU Directory: KB3IV		Sunday Morning Net Schedules • 2 Meter/ 70cm Net..... at 0930L on W3QV repeater • 10-on-10 Net at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM) • 75 meter Net at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB • ARES at 2100L on the W3QV repeater	
	DX: N3MT Emerg.Coor: K3HWE Field Day: KE3QB Internet: N3QV & KC2PMW Membership: N3XKE	Net Control: KB3IV Publicity: W3RM Program: Club VP Public Service: KE3QB Refreshments: W3AOK Repeater: W3AOK	Scholarship: W3RM Skywarn: WX3PHI Sunshine: N3GLU VE Program: NS3K Welcome: N3UBY Youth: N3MT

All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at **Roxborough Memorial Hospital**, 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128
Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org.

License Examinations are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at **Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002**

Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmccloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee: W3RM**

147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz

Reach us on EchoLink through W3QV-R

W3AA Trustee: WU3I

W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV

The Officers

Pres: KB3IV Ed Masarsky 310 Saw Mill Ln. Horsham PA 19044 kb3iv@comcast.net

Vice Pres: N3QV Eric D. Marano, PO BOX 233, Skippack PA 19474 n3qv@arrl.net

Sec: KB3MIV Jen Miller 9427 Kirkwood Rd. 1st Fl. Phila 19114 jencaz@verizon.net

Treas: W3RM Richard A. Moll roger.mike@verizon.net

Asst. Treas: N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli michaelmt_1999@yahoo.com

The Prez Sez ...

Hello Phil-Mont,

Did you see this month's cover of the Blurb? Look again. That could be you in the picture. Well, not that picture, but in the new one we will be taking of current club members holding their call sign plates. We are scheduling a photo shoot to take place at this year's Field Day site on either Saturday June 25th or Sunday June 26th. The day will be decided at the June board of directors meeting. We will inform everyone on the Sunday morning nets and also a mailing on the club list serve.

Arrangements are being made to help you carefully remove your tag and then reinstall it back on your vehicle. We will have new fasteners available if your current screws are not reusable. We will make copies of the photo available to all club members. We also plan to submit both the old and the new photos showing Phil-Mont "Then and Now" to the ARRL as a possible QST cover. You never know, it could happen.

Field Day plans are almost complete, but we still need to hear from all members planning to attend and operate. The band captains have been assigned, but we need to know how many people will be staying so we can plan the amount of champagne and caviar to order. Get in touch with Steve, WU3I, and give him your final count.

June will be the last time we meet before our summer break. Meetings will resume in September, but the Blurb, Nets and VE Test sessions will continue throughout the summer.

The Blurb

June 2011

I am very excited about the activities planned for this month and hope to see many of you at the various club functions.

de Ed, KB3IV

Phil-Mont

Birthdays & Tidbytes

June Birthdays

- 03 Jennifer Miller KB3MIV
- 04 Richard Moll W3RM
Sue Matney Sadwin N2CYA
- 05 John Direnzo, Jr KB3SJV
- 15 Caitlin J. Brady W3CJB
John P. Coupe Jr WA3BXH
- 30 Michael Lenczynski KA3EIP
Fredric Rice WA3KIO

Membership Stats

At press time PMRC had:
 85 Full Paid Members
 4 Youth Members
 1 Honorary Member
 2 Pending Members



***This month's Thursday evening VE session
is on the 23rd***

As always, many thanks to our VE team!

From the Secretary

Minutes of the Board of Directors - May 11, 2011

The postponed May 4 meeting of the board of directors was held immediately prior to the General Meeting on May 11, at the Wolcolf Auditorium, Roxborough Memorial Hospital. President KB3IV called the meeting to order at 1925 hours, with the following additional directors in attendance and voting: W3AOK, ND3B, KB2ERL, WU3I, W3RM and W3STW.

Treasurer W3RM presented invoices from Land Mobile Corporation, Jenkintown, PA, covering tower labor and materials to replace our W3QV/R VHF and UHF antennas, including a new Station Master VHF antenna, new UHF antenna, coaxial feedline runs to the transmitter shack, stand-offs and hardware. The work was accomplished over a two-day period, with complete installation on two different tower legs.

Repeater Committee chair W3AOK, who previously received and reviewed the invoices, determined that the invoices were in accordance with our specifications and quoted pricing. Upon motion, the Board voted to authorize payment to Land Mobile Corporation. Committee members reported that the system is operating with much improved transmitting and receiving signal levels on both bands.

The Board discussed Field Day preparations. Band captains were identified for all bands except ten meters to date. Park sites "A" and "B" have been reserved this year, and a plot plan will be prepared locating station and antenna positions, in order hopefully to mitigate inter-band interference.

KB3IV suggested a "photo-op" for Field Day: A group photo of members holding their call-letter license plates. Such a photo was made, and run on the Blurb cover, back in 1956 when Pennsylvania first issued call letter tags. The board meeting was adjourned at 2015 hours.

Following the Board meeting, president KB3IV called to order the May General Meeting at 2030 hours. W3RM apprised the membership of the completed repeater system antenna improvements, and the cost thereof. A number of members commented on the improvement in signal levels.

Visitors to the meeting, Mike, N3TOX, and Brandon, KB3VYD, were introduced as applicants for membership. Both will be published in the June Blurb, and their membership considered at the June Board meeting.

W3RM reminded the members that Phil-Mont has underwritten three scholarships this year: The annual Claude H. Haring, W3IIM, Memorial Scholarship, with grant of \$2,000; the George W.K. King, W3PXY, Memorial Scholarship, with \$1,500 grant; and the Rolland C. Madara, W3PWG, Memorial Scholarship, with \$1,500 grant. The F.A.R. Scholarship Committee will notify us just before Field Day naming this year's recipients.

Barry, K3EUI, introduced our guest program speaker, Joe Volaro, K3JV, who presented a most interesting power point presentation, with on-the-air demos, of the latest digital modes. After a lively Q&A session, the general meeting was adjourned at 1950 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

AI, W3STW
Secretary of the meetings

Here are 2 New member applications de Dick, W3RM

Michael Vincent - N3TOX
738 Port Indian Road
Norristown, PA 19403-3506
Phone: 610-539-2080
DOB: April 21
License Class: General (Expires 2/25/2021)
Occupation: Forensic Scientist
ARRL Member - Exp. 6/30/2012
Email Address: n3tox@arrrl.net

Brandon Szalai - KB3VYD
435 S. 43rd. Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-3937
Phone: 215-882-1731
DOB: 11/01/68
License Class: General (Expires 04/11/2021)
ARRL Member: Exp: 03/31/2013
Email Address: baszalai@speakeasy.net

Radio Stores ... 'N' More

by Bob Thomas, W3NE

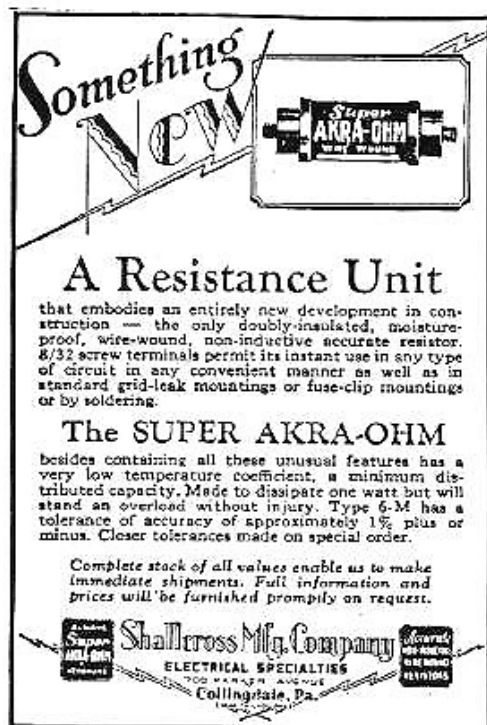
REMEMBERING SHALLCROSS – PART 1

Good experience and enjoyable work, but ...

Drexel University was a pioneer in “Cooperative Education,” whereby students alternate at three- or six-month intervals between formal classes and regular employment in industry. Outside jobs help with college expenses but more importantly, they provide a practical view of what lies ahead after graduation. Because of the co-op program, I had nine memorable months of instructive, personally rewarding experiences at the Shallcross Manufacturing Company during my Junior and Senior years in the late ‘40s. Perhaps the few vignettes related here will offer some insight on industrial life in America when companies still made things.

John Shallcross founded his company in a former bakery in Collingdale, a suburb of Philadelphia, in the mid-‘twenties to make precision wire wound resistors. The first advertisement I have seen for Shallcross Akra-Ohm resistors was in *QST* for September 1929. That was decades before thin film technology was developed, when the only means for making accurate resistors was by winding insulated resistance wire on ceramic bobbins. The bobbins were typically about a half-inch in diameter and an inch long with buss wire or staked-on terminals. Some of the first versions were made with fuse-type ends so they could be plugged into holders commonly used for grid leak resistors in early radio sets. Resistors in the megohm range required hundreds of turns of silk-insulated wire as small as 1/1000” diameter! The wire was usually made of Manganin, an alloy of copper, manganese and nickel, formulated for high resistance, low temperature coefficient, and good long term stability. After winding, the resistors were soaked in varnish, baked in an oven, and operated under load for several hours to stabilize their resistance.

When I worked at Shallcross the company had expanded into a modern one- and two-story building complex at 520 Pusey Avenue in Collingdale. The plant consisted of a large manufacturing building where 160 women operated resistor-winding machines, an adjacent machine shop, engineering lab, and second floor business office. There also were separate areas for assembly and testing of a variety of Wheatstone and



Advertisement from 1929 QST

Kelvin bridges, decade resistance boxes, telephone test equipment, and audio attenuators. All instrument switches and their component parts were built in-house, as were all the parts for the attenuators. The company suffered the stigma of running second best to Leeds and Northrup in the instrument field and Daven in the attenuator line, an image unfortunately reinforced by Shallcross's propensity to copy innovations of those industry leaders rather than invest in advanced development of new products. But that was over sixty years ago; today those venerable companies exist in name only.

By the time I joined it for my first co-op assignment, the company was well established under tight general management of John Shallcross, Sr. (popularly known as "Pappy") and his three sons. John Jr. had the most responsible position (under domination of his father), as manager of Sales and Marketing. Younger son "Spike" was Production Manager in a job well suited for him, given the large number of females in his domain. Dewees, a feckless fellow with personal issues, was in charge of the Engineering Lab where I worked, although I reported to Fred Mitchell, the Chief Engineer.

The company was obviously very much under family control, a point well taken by older employees who seemed to accept the minimal likelihood of ever rising very far in management. It was also a paternal organization with a company-subsidized "Sunshine Club" in lieu of a union. However, it was generally acknowledged that "Pappy" personally took care of faithful employees if they had health or financial problems. Even as a temporary employee, I was well treated, once being taken with the "regulars" to the IRE Show in New York, an extravaganza of electronic wares displayed by virtually every manufacturer in the business. What an enriching experience that was, and on top of it all, they gave me \$5 (over half a day's pay then) for spending money.

After introductions on my first day at work, I was assigned by an officious chap to prepare an environmental chamber for his use. He was going to test a new type of power resistor over a wide range of temperatures to investigate performance in extreme operating conditions. The chamber cabinet was about four feet square and eight feet high. Instead of a modern mechanical refrigeration system for the cold cycle, however, cooling was accomplished by circulating cold alcohol through coils in the test chamber. The alcohol was super-cooled by dry ice in a large reservoir at the top of the unit. He pointed to the chamber and said, "Get it going," then departed. There was a 25-pound block of

dry ice and an axe on the floor next to the chamber, so I chopped-up about a quarter of the block into small pieces, put them in a cardboard box, and climbed up a step ladder so I could dump the dry ice lumps into the warm alcohol. By the time I had climbed down the ladder, alcohol foam was gushing over the top of the tank and streaming down the sides of the cabinet onto the floor. My "advisor" reappeared and without batting an eye said, "Oh yeah, I meant to tell you to put the dry ice in a very small amount at a time or the alcohol will boil violently." Although I had to occasionally tend the environmental chamber after that dismal introduction, it soon became routine and there was plenty of time left for more interesting work with friendlier people.

The first job I had where I was left alone was to test a number of resistor networks from the Harvard Computation Laboratory (a heady title in that age!). Actual measurement was a cinch using a Shallcross "Percent Limit Bridge," which measured a particular resistance value within a preset tolerance range. There were enough networks involved to justify making a fixture to switch between individual resistors, which were mounted on an octal plug, so there was not a lot of connecting and disconnecting of leads. When all the out-of-tolerance resistors had been found and replaced, I had my own chance to use that dreaded environmental chamber to put the assemblies through temperature cycling before making one last measurement and sending the networks on their way.

The next project was, literally, a big one: help design and construct two 2000-volt 800-ma. dc power supplies – a ham's delight. More on that next time.

Field Day is coming fast, I hope the weather gods smile on us. Having two sites this year can only double the fun!

Volunteer opportunity for Amateurs

June 5, 2011 marks the 27th running of **the Philadelphia International Championship**. Sponsored by TD Bank and presented by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the 156-mile classic remains the longest running and most important single-day cycling road race in the United States.

Phil-Mont has been asked to provide communication support this year for this event. Please get in touch with Bill, W3AOK as soon as possible to let him know your interest in participating. His email address is w3aok@verizon.net. He needs your response so he can order credentials and tee shirts.

For Sale

Optoelectronics FC-50 frequency counter,

ARRL handbooks 1933 - onward

Kreco 10 meter coaxial vertical antenna,

Antique headphones,

Multimeters,
and old technical books.

Contact Tom Bohlander WA3KLR

Contact Tom Bohlander WA3KLR, 215-536-1331

Please feel free to forward to other clubs of which you are a member

Phil-Mont Steel Cage Match!



Come to our June club meeting Wednesday June 8 to see a fight to the finish, winner take all, Steel Cage Match between a Flex 5000A SDR Transceiver vs. a Yaesu FTDX-5000 Transceiver. Both radios will be fully operational and connected to a monster screwdriver antenna mounted in a pickup truck just outside the meeting room.

Tell all your Ham friends about this once in a lifetime event and invite them to attend. I promise you, this will have you on the edge of your seat.

de Ed, KB3IV

June at PMRC ...

- 1** Wed Board of Directors Meeting
- 5** Sun KC2PMW – NCS
- 8** Wed General Membership Meeting
- 12** Sun W3STW – NCS
- 14** Tues Flag Day
- 19** Sun KB3IV – NCS
- 23** Thurs VE Test Session
- 24** Take Your Dog to Work Day
- 25&26** Field Day
- 26** Sun KB3SJV – NCS

And don't forget the **ARES** net every Sunday night at 2100L and the new **Digital Net** Tuesdays at 1900L, both on W3QV/R

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First Class Mail

Check out this rope for your antenna project –

3/32" Braided Olive Drab - Dacron / Polyester cord

This is a high quality braided polyester cord with a breaking strength of 210 pounds. Proudly Made in the U.S.A.!

This is a gorgeous solid braid perfect for dipole antennas. Very low stretch and strong. Will withstand the weather & sun for 7 to 10 years.

PRICE \$10.00 PER 100 FEET

SOLD IN 100 FOOT LOTS

CONTACT STEVE WU3I AT

WU3I@ARRL.NET

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
310 Saw Mill Lane, Apt 6D, Horsham PA 19044

The Blurb